

Juvenile Delinquency Court Assessment 2008

Volume 2

April 2008



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS

CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN
& THE COURTS

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ABOUT THIS VOLUME

This report is divided into two sections. Volume 1 contains the executive summary and a comprehensive final report that brings together the research findings with recommendations. In Volume 1, Chapter 1 provides an introduction to the assessment and the report. Chapter 2 addresses the quality of court hearings and other issues at the court case level. Chapter 3 discusses the availability and quality of services and sanctions available to the courts and probation agencies. In Chapter 4, managerial and leadership issues central to the functioning of a well-run court are presented, including court accountability, collaboration, and facilities. Chapter 5 describes the background of the key professionals who work in the court system. That chapter also describes how youth, parents, communities, judicial officers, and justice partners view the juvenile justice system. Chapter 6 summarizes the report and discusses possible next steps in implementing the recommendations. The final recommendations are presented in Chapter 7, and they also appear at the ends of the chapters, according to subject matter.

Volume 2 contains briefing documents on the various research efforts that informed this work. Chapter 1 focuses on the methodology of the study. Chapters 2, 3, and 4 respectively provide detailed results of the surveys of judicial officers, probation officers, and attorneys. Chapter 5 focuses on the perspectives of court users gained during focus groups. Chapter 6 provides a review of juvenile court facilities, and Chapter 7 contains the research instruments used for this assessment. These data sources served as the foundation for the findings and recommendations contained in Volume 1.